



November 13, 2020

Happy blustery Friday. This week as I reflect upon the special place in my heart that Leota holds, I want to express my deep gratitude for our entire Leota family. In my readings this past week I came across this very simple, but poignant statement I'd like to share. As we inch closer to Thanksgiving, I continue to center my mind on thankfulness. With so many things seemingly out of our control these days, the one thing I do feel that I have within my grasp is to seek gratitude. The statement below was found on *gratitude.org*:

"Benedictine monk, Br. David Steindl-Rast, suggests that two qualities belong in our basic **definition of gratitude**. The first is **appreciation**: You recognize that something is valuable to you, which has nothing to do with its monetary worth. The second quality Br. David mentions is that **gratitude is gratis**: freely given to you."

"Robert Emmons, perhaps the world's leading scientific expert on gratitude, also argues that gratitude has two key components: 'First, it's an **affirmation of goodness**. We affirm that there are good things in the world, gifts and benefits we've received.' In the second part of gratitude, he explains, 'we recognize that **the sources of this goodness are outside of ourselves**...We acknowledge that other people...gave us many gifts, big and small, to help us achieve the goodness in our lives.'"

Things going on around campus that contribute to my gratefulness:

Yearbook Club is Seeking Photos: Our yearbook staff is getting creative this year, and we need help from our families and students! If you have pictures that you would like to share to be included in the yearbook of your student (attending Zoom, dressing up for a spirit day, creating art/doing a science experiment, doing something in the community, etc.) please send them to leotamsyearbook@nsd.org. We want to make sure to showcase all our students!

National School Psychology Week: Today culminates National School Psychology Week and I want to give a huge shout out to our fabulous school psychologist, Heather Fletcher. Leota is so lucky to have such a talented and caring professional in Heather. She does so much in support of our students. Thank you, Heather!

Diwali – November 14th: Diwali (Festival of Lights) is one of the largest festivals celebrated by Hindus and other faiths around the world and marks the victory of goodness over evil. On this day, families share food and gifts with friends, relatives, and give to various charities.

Annual Required Forms Available on ParentVUE – Please complete ASAP:

Annually the District provides parents/guardians with notification of forms that must be acknowledged, including:

- State Attendance Letter
- Rights and Responsibilities Handbook
- Weapons Letter
- Student Housing Questionnaire
- Immunization Record Sharing Form

We ask that you [login to ParentVUE](#) today to view these forms. Additionally, secondary students will be prompted to download, read, and acknowledge the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook when they login to StudentVUE. Please complete these forms by Tuesday, Nov. 17. Learn more by [visiting our District website](#).

PTSA/ASB Fund Drive: Today is the last day to contribute to our Fund Drive. We are currently at 13,928, but our goal is \$22,000. Please consider donating today and need you to help us reach an average of \$25 per student. ***Don't forget about corporate matching, which can double your donations.*** Scroll down to the PTSA section of this newsletter to see how you can participate. Thank you so much for your support and for helping get the word out.

Wednesday, November 18th: Students should check in with their 4th period teacher from 8:30-8:50. Attendance on all Wednesdays is required and will be taken either live during the 8:30 check-in or asynchronously by verifying each student's Working Wednesday plan, which they complete each Wednesday via Google Form. Students will complete their individualized learning plan with support from their teacher. The school day for students will end at 1:35.

With deep gratitude, I wish each of you a wonderful weekend. Thank you so much for your ongoing partnership.

Warmly,

Audee Gregor
Principal

Happy Friday to you! In this weekly bulletin, you will see:

- Next Week at Leota
- Leota PTSA Weekly Update



Next Week at Leota

Nov. 16	Periods 1, 2, 3
Nov. 17	Periods 4, 5, 6
Nov. 18	Period 4 (8:30-8:50am) Check-in & Students Complete Working Wednesday Plan Early Release-School Day Ends at 1:35pm Library Book Check out 11-2pm
Nov. 19	Periods 1, 2, 3
Nov. 20	Periods 4, 5, 6

.....



Leota Office Contact Info

Office Manager Felicia Casolary: fcasolary@nsd.org
ASB Secretary Melanie Spencer: m Spencer@nsd.org
Attendance Secretaries: Barb Roetcisoender: broetcisoender@nsd.org;
Patricia Bong: pbong@nsd.org
Attendance Email: Lmsattendance@nsd.org
School Registrar Mary Hayes: mhayes@nsd.org
School Nurse Deb Park: dpark@nsd.org
Principal Audee Gregor: agregor@nsd.org
Assistant Principal Bryan McNiel: bmcniel@nsd.org



Weekly Update

November 13, 2020

Upcoming Events

10/19-11/13	Paving The Way Together Annual Giving Fund – TODAY IS THE LAST DAY! Live totals can be found at bit.ly/LeotaTogether2020 . Grand Prize Drawing on 11/18 for Seattle Kraken VIP Gear and more.
11/13	Participate in Reflections Art Program. See turn in instructions. Questions? Contact reflections@leotaptsa.com
01/18	WSPTA Focus Day: Parents and students can meet their legislators.
	Sign Up for Staff Appreciation: staffappreciation@leotaptsa.com
	Sign Up for Science Olympiad Club: scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com
	Sign Up for Math Olympiad Club: matholympiad@leotaptsa.com . Go to www.leotaptsa.com to sign up for communications and register for upcoming competitions. NEW PRACTICE SESSIONS STARTING SOON!

PTSA Mission: Make Every Child's Potential A Reality!

Paving the Way Together Annual Fund: 10/19 – 11/13

WHY are we raising funds? PTSA and ASB are active in very different ways this year, but are dedicated to making our student, teacher, and parent experiences the very best they can be.

Especially in these unusual and difficult times, we want to provide impactful educational and community building programs to help our students and families thrive. Thus, we are kicking off our Annual Fund drive that will benefit both PTSA and ASB at Leota Middle School.

This year we would like to continue offering grants for the classroom, library, special education, WEB Leaders, staff appreciation, Career Day, Science Olympiad Club, Math Olympiad Club, 8th Grade Party, and ASB programs. These only happen through amazing volunteers and donations from our community.

We thank everyone for their generosity whether it is a donation, being a volunteer or an awesome community member. It is completely understandable if a donation is not possible at this time. Most importantly we wish all our Leota families to stay safe and healthy.

WHY are PTSA and ASB combining forces? Because we want to make it clearer and easier than it has ever been while slashing the cost to raise funds by over 90%.

How Can I participate? There are two ways to participate. Option 1 is able to accept membership + sponsorship + Corporate Matching + Donations through the www.leotaptsa.com website. For Option 2, a separate website has been set up on a platform called 99pledges that will accept donations and allow you to engage friends and family to participate. On Monday, October 19, each family that has not opted out of information sharing will have a link sent to them



LEOTA PTSA ANNUAL FUND

HOW TO PARTICIPATE— NOW THROUGH NOV 6

Membership
leotaptsa.com

+

Sponsorship
leotaptsa.com

+

Corporate
Matching
contact@leotaptsa.com

+

Donate to
Annual Fund
bit.ly/LeotaTogether2020

=

\$25
Per Student
Average

Option 1: Leota PTSA
Membership + Sponsorship + Corporate Matching +
Donations can be made at:
www.leotaptsa.com

Option 2: 99Pledges
Donations + Ask Friends and Family to Participate +
Follow Individual and Pride Level Totals at:
Bit.ly/LeotaTogether2020

Note: Qualifying purchases made on www.leotaptsa.com will be added to the rewards totals on the 99Pledges website. Bit.ly/LeotaTogether2020 is case sensitive so the L and T must be capitalized. Link is also on leotaptsa.com website. **ALL DONATIONS ABOVE \$25 PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS IN NEED.**

**DID YOU KNOW CORPORATE MATCHING
DOLLARS INCLUDES DONATIONS AND
VOLUNTEER TIME?**



CORPORATE MATCHING

MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT WITH CORPORATE MATCHING

1. Ask your company if they match
2. After donating to the Leota PTSA Annual Fund log into your company's matching fund site and follow their process to document the donation.
3. Leota Middle School PTSA (formally Leota Jr. High School PTSA) should be listed as an official charity already in your companies site. If not, please add us. We are an official 501c3 registered with the Secretary of State. Contact us for the EIN number if it is needed.
4. Don't forget to log all your **volunteer hours** as donations with your company.
5. If you would like your corporate donations to count in the Annual Fund Rewards, please email a screenshot or forward the email receipt from your company to confirm that the matching has been entered to contact@leotaptsa.com.





ANNUAL FUND REWARDS

PAVING THE WAY IS HARD WORK AND DESERVES A REWARD

PAVING  THE WAY
TOGETHER



GRAND PRIZE

(Drawing on 11/18)

Seattle Kraken VIP Gear Pack

1 entry is provided for every \$25 donation.

Example: total donations, memberships, sponsorship, corporate matching equaling \$125 will receive 5 entries.



TOP 30 STUDENTS

Jamba Juice Gift Card

ALL STUDENTS RAISING OVER:

\$1000 High School or Pro Team Gear

\$500 Leota or High School Gear

\$250 Family Pizza Party

\$125 LED Shoelaces

Students over \$125 also
entered into a drawing for 1 of 3
— Hand Operated Mini Drone —

\$75 17in Glider or Parachute Toy

\$50 Leota AWESOME Highlighter

\$25 Leota Pencil and Prize Pack

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR GENEROSITY

Paving the Way Together Reward Totals (as of 11/12)

Live totals can be found at bit.ly/LeotaTogether2020

Top 30 Students	Amount
Ati Swan	\$ 652.00
Charlotte Bagley	\$ 500.00
Tina Kladakis	\$ 400.00
Kamryn Wille	\$ 285.00
Emma Long	\$ 280.00
Emily McKenzie	\$ 255.00
Morgan Hanna	\$ 250.00
Ethan Wiley	\$ 250.00
Tristan Hanna	\$ 250.00
Cindy Liang	\$ 250.00
Emil Praslick	\$ 240.00
Tanveer Ahamed Mohamad Saleem	\$ 200.00
Abbie Mai	\$ 200.00
Tucker Clinton	\$ 190.00
Makena Devine	\$ 180.00
Myles Mazzoncini	\$ 150.00
Charlie Allen	\$ 150.00
Griffin McKnight	\$ 150.00
Jackson Howe	\$ 150.00
Cooper Brix	\$ 137.00
Abigail Simpson	\$ 137.00
Hunter Darnall	\$ 130.00
Nalyn Annepu	\$ 127.00
Peyton Roach	\$ 125.00
Aidan Peterson	\$ 125.00
Adri Jankovic	\$ 122.00
Miles Carson	\$ 120.00
Olivia Edwards	\$ 110.00
Toko Morimura	\$ 102.00

Top 1st Period Classes	Amount
HURLEY	\$ 994.00
WARHOL	\$ 930.33
DUFFY	\$ 840.00
MILLER, SCOTT	\$ 762.00
ADAMS	\$ 652.00
LINDGREN	\$ 640.00
BUTZ JR	\$ 619.50
HORSWILL	\$ 600.00
SANDER	\$ 570.00
MOLITOR	\$ 559.00
KILGORE	\$ 557.50
OLSON	\$ 530.33
KELLY	\$ 484.50
FAST	\$ 465.00
OLSON, MICHELLE	\$ 457.00
HORST	\$ 417.00
DAVISCOURT	\$ 407.50
MANN	\$ 400.00
MILLER, SUSAN	\$ 374.00
SCHMIDT	\$ 352.00
WESTBERG	\$ 330.00
BOHANNAN	\$ 300.33
NELSON	\$ 275.00
POON, DANIEL	\$ 180.00
POAGE	\$ 177.00
POON, VALERIE	\$ 155.00
MOORE	\$ 117.00
DAVIDSON	\$ 110.00
GREGOR	\$ 100.00
MORRIS	\$ 60.00
Main Page	\$ 50.00
SCHLUTZ	\$ 37.00

Top Donors	Amount
Elizabeth Swan	\$ 652.00
Sylvia Bagley	\$ 500.00
Jim Hanna	\$ 500.00
Nasos Kladakis	\$ 400.00
Lonnie Long	\$ 280.00
Carrie McKenzie	\$ 255.00
Kristen Wiley	\$ 250.00
YAN Chen	\$ 250.00
Mohamad Saleem	\$ 200.00
Susan Carr	\$ 150.00
Carol Mazzoncini	\$ 150.00
Patricia Simpson	\$ 137.00
Brenae Brix	\$ 137.00
Sue Lohman	\$ 130.00
Tambi Wille	\$ 125.00
Alycia Roach	\$ 125.00
Kelly Peterson	\$ 125.00
Nina Karamehmedovic	\$ 122.00
Maurice Carson	\$ 120.00
Teru Morimura	\$ 102.00
Chad Gustafson	\$ 100.00
Ravikumar Annepu	\$ 100.00
Christina muzzy	\$ 100.00
Shih-kai Lai	\$ 100.00
Cu Mai	\$ 100.00
Ujjwal Maheshwari	\$ 100.00
Cuong Mai	\$ 100.00
Vivek Garg	\$ 100.00
Daniel Kim	\$ 100.00
Michael R Howe	\$ 100.00
David and Theresa Held	\$ 100.00
Ravi K Krishnmaneni	\$ 100.00
Donna L. Clinton	\$ 100.00
Saravanan Murugesan	\$ 100.00
Ekaterina Kolosova	\$ 100.00
Brian Mendonca	\$ 100.00
Gleason-Geise Family	\$ 100.00
Tina Williams	\$ 100.00
John D Deehr	\$ 100.00
Valerie Olson	\$ 100.00
Aaron Moreau-Cook	\$ 100.00
Beth Bishop	\$ 100.00
Liza Chen	\$ 100.00
Anissa Wheeler	\$ 100.00

If totals need to be updated, please let us know at contact@leotaptsa.com.

Participate in This Year's Reflections Program by 11/13



Participate in this year's Reflections program! The Reflections Program is a National PTA and WSPTA cultural arts competition. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works for the theme of "I Matter Because...". **This year it's even easier to participate as Reflections is Virtual!**

Find out more about the guidelines for each category as well as a submission form in the links below:

- [2020-21 Entry Form \(2020-21 Fillable Entry Form\)](#)
- [2020-21 Dance Choreography Packet](#)
- [2020-21 Film Production Packet](#)
- [2020-21 Literature Packet](#)
- [2020-21 Music Composition Packet](#)
- [2020-21 Photography Packet](#)
- [2020-21 Visual Arts Packet](#)
- [2020-21 Special Artist Rules](#)

Each student can submit one (1) piece of art per category. For more information or to submit entries, visit <https://leotaptsa.com/Page/PTSA/Reflections%20Program>. **Submission deadline is Friday, November 13th, 2020.**

Have questions or need to submit your student's entry? Contact your Reflections Co-Chairs at reflections@leotaptsa.com.

Your PTSA Advocates for ALL Kids!

By joining a local PTA, a member automatically becomes part of the largest child-advocacy association in the state – 132,000 strong across Washington.

PTA is a membership-driven association. People join PTA to show support for the work PTA does locally to benefit their child and community, and to support the work PTA does collectively to help children, families, and schools.

Washington State

PTA®

everychild.one voice.®

Engage in Advocacy

Attend a Leota PTSA General Meeting: **Wednesday, March 10th, 2021.**

Attend a School Board Meeting! usually held on the second Monday of the month at 4pm and the fourth Monday at 7pm. [Click here for more info.](#)

Join a School Board Meeting: [Join the WSPTA Action Network Group](#) - Sign up to receive timely information and action alerts during the Washington State Legislative sessions. This is very easy way to make your voice heard.

Contact your state legislators: Find and contact your local Washington State Legislators at <https://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

Attend FOCUS DAY on January 18th, 2021. This is our opportunity for parents and students to directly speak to legislators!

Legislative Assembly A Success!

Grassroots Advocacy. Powered by PTA.

On Saturday, October 24, and Sunday, October 25, child advocates from across the state came together virtually to learn, debate, and vote on WSPTA's legislative priorities for the 2020-2021 year. Visit our Advocacy page at <https://leotaptsa.com/Page/PTSA/Advocacy>.

WSPTA 2020-2021 Top 5 Legislative Priorities

1. Increase Access to Nursing, Mental Health, and Social Emotional Learning Staff
2. Support Students and Preserve Education Funding
3. Increasing Educational Equity by Closing the Digital Divide
4. Supports and Funding for Students with Disabilities and Their Families
5. Prevent and Reduce Gun Violence and Suicide

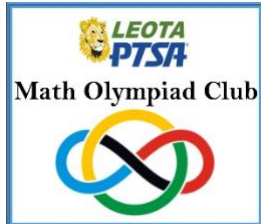


What To Expect This Upcoming Legislative Session

Advocacy. Powered by PTA.

WSPTA Legislative Consultant Marie Sullivan shared information with the legislative assembly this past weekend. She showed us a look ahead at 2021 and topics that are likely under consideration by the 66th Legislature. You can read her insights into the upcoming legislative session on the [WSPTA blog](#).

Join the (NEW) Math Olympiad Club



We have heard from you that MATH/ STEM-related enrichment is high on the wish list; We heard from you that your student is enthusiastic about Math, Math puzzles, Math problems and Applied Math scenario analysis - so here at Leota PTSA is excited to offer you with all of these opportunities.

The Math Club program is a **free** school-wide math enrichment program for middle school students, consisting of a series of challenging and interesting math problems provided to you. The purpose of this program is to engage and challenge students to solve interesting math problems, strengthening their math fundamentals, critical thinking and problem-solving skills - improving their confidence along the way.

What can you expect: We send emails about Math problems, News about Math, Share Math Articles and of course share information on upcoming Math Olympiads.

These opportunities cover problem solving strategies such as drawing a picture or model, making an organized list, looking for patterns, working backwards, and guess and check.

NEW PRACTICE SESSIONS STARTING SOON: We plan to start practice sessions for Math Olympiad preparations. More details will be communicated to parents who have signed up to receive communications from the Math club. If you haven't already, then signup for communication using the link below.

[Club Info and FAQ](#)

[Sign Up for Communications](#)

[Register for Upcoming Competitions](#)

Science Olympiad: Sign Up



**EXPLORE THE DYNAMIC
WORLD OF STEM!**

**JOIN OUR CLUB, & DIVE
INTO TOPICS SUCH AS:**

- **GEOLOGY**
- **CHEMISTRY**
- **ENGINEERING**
- **TECHNOLOGY**

**FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:
SCIENCEOLYMPIAD@LEOTAP TSA.COM**

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD CLUB

Explore a variety of topics and have fun while learning about science by joining the Science Olympiad! Become a disease detective and solve medical mysteries by examining the details. Apply STEM skills to help build a robust boomilever. Craft a battery buggy that defies speed yet can run precisely to the millimeter. Try missions like these and more by participating in the 2020-2021 Science Olympiad! With almost 25 different topics included in the curriculum, participants will delve deeply into a variety of scientific topics and learn to develop and apply creative and innovative ideas. This is a great opportunity for students to apply book learning to hands-on experiments and see scientific lessons in action. Learn more at: <https://www.soinc.org/>

The Science Olympiad is not classroom or a teacher-led activity. It is a student-directed, parent-mentored activity. Parents should be prepared to assist with their child's participation. Possible activities include: scheduling study time, finding new/enriching resources, purchasing supplies, perfecting designs, arranging meetings with local experts or hosting build parties. Coordinating efforts between similar events is encouraged and at the parent's discretion. Parents and students will be asked to agree to a Code of Conduct to participate.

Any parents interested in volunteering as coach, please reach out to me at your earliest convenience at scienceolympiad@leotaptsa.com. A science background is not necessary to coach.

HAVE YOUR PTSA MEMBERSHIP?

We invite you to become a member of the Leota PTSA at www.leotaptsa.com.



Membership

Your membership is very important to investing in students:

- Direct classroom grants to enrich educational outcomes
- Strong show of support for PTSA volunteers, community, and advocating for ALL students.
- Provides voice and vote in programs offered at Leota
- Voting rights at Washington State and National PTA level
- Over \$500 in member discounts
- 100% tax deductible



Get your membership today
at www.leotaptsa.com

Make your volunteers hours count!

Did You Know Your Company May Donate When You Volunteer?

Many companies will donate for hours volunteered in addition to matching financial donations. Please check with your company to see if you have a dollars for doers or similar volunteer hours matching program and take a few minutes to register your hours towards a Leota Middle School PTSA donation.

Amazon Smile is Also A Great Way to Donate

Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/> all year long, every time you are making purchases with Amazon. Whenever a purchase is made with Leota PTSA as the beneficiary, Amazon will send us a donation. Be sure to select Leota PTSA as your beneficiary.

Join the Leota PTSA Volunteer and Info Facebook Group

Join our Leota PTSA Volunteers and Info closed Facebook group if you would like to hear more about volunteer opportunities:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeotaPTSAVolunteers/>.

There is no requirement to volunteer. By joining, we hope you feel part of the Leota parent community and are better informed about what is happening at our school.